

**Catawba County Board of Health
Minutes
May 14, 2018**

The Catawba County Board of Health met on Monday, May 14, 2018 at 7:00 pm at Catawba County Public Health, 3070 11th Ave Dr SE, Hickory, NC 28602 in the Boardroom.

Members Present: Dr. David C. Hamilton, Jr, Chair
Dr. Matthew Davis, Vice-Chair
Mr. John H. Dollar
Ms. Dana H. Greene
Mr. Brian Potocki
Mr. William Pitts

Members Absent: Ms. Gloria Costin
Ms. Susan Knowles
Mr. Dan Hunsucker, County Commissioner
Dr. Sharon Monday

Staff present: Mr. Doug Urland, Health Director
Ms. Jennifer McCracken, Assistant Health Director
Ms. Julie Byrd, WIC Director
Ms. Megen McBride, Environmental Health Supervisor
Ms. Jennifer Lindsay, School Health Nurse Supervisor
Ms. Sarah Rhodes, Clinical Nurse Supervisor
Ms. Rhonda Stikeleather, Children's Services Nursing Supervisor
Mr. Jason Williams, Staff Development Specialist
Mr. Zack King, Community Health Analyst
Ms. Debra Young, Administrative Assistant II
Ms. Emily Killian, Community Engagement Specialist

CALL TO ORDER

Dr. David Hamilton, Jr, Chair, called the meeting of the Catawba County Public Health Board to order at 7:01 pm. Dr. Hamilton welcomed Board members, Public Health managers and Public Health staff. Before other business was conducted, Dr. Hamilton announced a change to the presented agenda with removal of item 'F'. At this time, there are no new employees to introduce to the Board. There is also a change of presenter for the Third Quarter Financial Update from Ms. Sindie Sigmon, Business Manager to Mr. Doug Urland, Health Director.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Based on the above-mentioned changes, Dr Hamilton asked if there were any further changes to the agenda. Hearing none, he asked for approval of the revised agenda. Mr. John Dollar made a motion to accept the agenda as changed and Mr. William Pitts seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously and business proceeded.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

The minutes for April 9, 2018, were included in the Board packet that the Board members received via email. Dr. David Hamilton, Chair, asked if there were any corrections. No corrections were noted and Mr. Brian Potocki made a motion to accept the minutes as presented and Dr. Matthew David seconded the motion. The April minutes were approved unanimously.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

Dr. Hamilton asked if anyone presented to speak before the Board. Ms. Debra Young, Administrative Assistant II, stated that no one had presented to speak.

COUNTY COMMISSIONER'S COMMENTS

None

NEW EMPLOYEES

Ms. Debra Young, Administrative Assistant, stated that there were no new employees hired since the last Board meeting.

PUBLIC HEALTH THIRD QUARTER REPORT

Mr. Doug Urland recapped the Public Health Third Quarter Report submitted by Ms. Sindie Sigmon, Business Manager.

Revenues are on target for payments to Public Health and it was noted that the anticipated payments from Medicaid Escrow for 2016-17 are higher than what was estimated/budgeted. Revenue for the Public Health mid-level practitioner will continue to increase as well and the provider continues to build clinical experiences and expand practice areas to accept patients.

Expenses are tracking at close to 69% for the third quarter. Part-time wages are tracking slightly higher due to staff vacancies and the use of hourly nursing and clerical staff. Data processing equipment expenditures were higher this quarter due to the purchase of EMR system, CureMD.

Mr. Urland stated that the fiscal year 2018-19 budget was submitted to the Board of Commissioners this morning. Budget hearings are scheduled for May 24th and June 4th is slated day for the Board of Commissioners to look at final budget and approve.

The Governor released the state budget with some additional items included such as the opioid epidemic, children issues, etc.

Third Quarter Financial PowerPoint and Financial Report are attached to these minutes.

eWIC UPDATE

Ms. Julie Byrd, WIC Director, gave an update on the new eWIC program that began in April. The eWIC program had a smooth transition in the WIC department and with the vendors. There has already been an increase in Catawba County WIC participants as the staff are calling on participants who have been off the program and if they still qualify, giving the information about the new eWIC program. All Catawba County WIC vendor are now certified to accept eWIC cards except one vendor who was piloting a local store and decided to not upgrade their equipment to accept eWIC. Within the next two months, the paper vouchers should be completely exhausted unless they are brought from someone out of state. All counties in NC have officially rolled out eWIC.

FARMERS MARKET UPDATE

Ms. Julie Byrd, WIC Director, shared the Catawba County Public Health Farmers Market (PHFM) update. For 2017, the total vouchers issued in Catawba County was 2,946 with a total of 1,639 redeemed at the market. The PHFM and Catawba County rate of redemption was 56% and 66%, respectively, which were well above the state rate of redemption at 42%. WIC staff began an interest list in the spring and began calling WIC participants once the state announced the farmers market voucher release date. The farmers market is in its 6th season and the 2018 market will run on Thursdays, from June 7 to September 27 from 10:00 am to 1:00 pm. There are 5 returning farmers along with 2 potential new farmers this season. Along with making fresh fruits and vegetables available to the community and WIC participants, the market has also built and strengthened several community partnerships including Senior Morning Out Programs, Childcare Center Field Trips and regularly scheduled taste testing sessions sponsored by the Cooperative Extension Program. Along with the WIC farmers market vouchers, the senior nutrition market vouchers are

also accepted. All three of the main farmer's markets in Catawba County now accept EBT and the WIC farmers market vouchers.

HEPATITIS C COALITION UPDATE

Ms. Sarah Rhodes, Clinical Nursing Supervisor, updated the Board regarding the Catawba County Hepatitis C Coalition.

Background: Back in 2015, a small rural county in Southeastern Indiana noticed a major increase in their HIV cases and more than 90% of those cases were co-infected with Hepatitis C. Local health officials tied this major increase to the sharing of needles among injection drug users. This discovery led to changes in how patients/cases were handled and began a new journey to look at the needle-sharing problem in other states.

Hepatitis C is a blood-borne virus that leads to the Hepatitis C infection; it affects the liver and can be Acute or Chronic. Chronic Hepatitis C is a serious disease that can result in long-term health problems and even death. Hepatitis C is transmitted through large or repeated percutaneous exposures to infectious blood. This could transpire via injection drug use/needle sharing, receipt of donated blood, blood products and/or organs, needle stick injuries in health care setting and birth by a Hepatitis C infected mother.

In early 2016, a local Infectious Disease Physician made Catawba County Public Health aware of increasing Hepatitis C cases in the community. At that time, chronic Hepatitis C was not a state reportable disease. Local testing and outreach programs were assessed and it was found that there was a major gap between coordination of care and treatment was very expensive. In early 2017, the Hepatitis C Coalition held its first community led/driven meeting. Catawba County Public Health provides administrative leaders and guidance for the coalition. The coalition has impacted the way people think about Hepatitis C and is moving towards closing the loop in testing and treatment referrals. This coalition has had a ground level approach to the nationwide situation and is working together to serve the community, which has enabled the partnership with Gaston Family Health Services and Gilead Pharmaceuticals to help fund the Community Bridge Counselor, housed at Catawba County Public Health. The Community Bridge Counselor provides patient navigation and care coordination in increase Hepatitis C virus testing and linkage to care among those newly diagnosed with Hepatitis C or those reestablishing care.

END OF SEASON FLU UPDATE

Ms. Sarah Rhodes, Clinical Nursing Supervisor, presented the 2017-18 Flu Season Wrap Up information. Ms. Rhodes stated that while the peak for flu in NC is usually around mid-February, the peak for this season hit a little earlier, at the beginning of February. From October 2017 to April 2018, there were 379 influenza-associated deaths reported in North Carolina. There were 10 in Catawba County. Communicable disease staff enhanced outreach efforts to area health care facilities and reviewed death certificates to ensure that all influenza-associated deaths are reported accurately in the county.

Catawba County Public Health Immunizations Clinic ordered 460 influenza vaccines, and 427 have been given to date compared to 444 vaccinations given last flu season. The flu vaccine is still available for those who request it and it is still being recommended for pregnant patients.

HEALTH DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Mr. Doug Urland, Health Director, stated there was no Health Director's report.

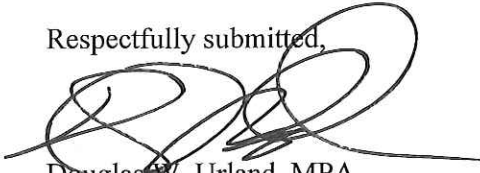
OTHER BUSINESS

Mr. John Dollar had questions regarding the recent CDC news information about mosquitos and ticks this year. Mr. Doug Urland updated the Board regarding information that the State sends out yearly, including various email messages, memorandums, and public service announcements regarding vector borne diseases/illnesses. Messages will be going out to providers to be on lookout for various diseases in patients as they present to their practices. The Zika virus is still on the radar and will continue to be for some time.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business, Dr. Hamilton asked for a motion to adjourn. Mr. William Pitts motioned to adjourn the meeting, Mr. John Dollar seconded the motion and Dr. Hamilton adjourned the meeting at 8:11 pm.

Respectfully submitted,



Douglas W. Urland, MPA
Health Director

DWU: day

Approved by Board of Health 06/11/2018/dy